



Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	Fertilizer Plant Explosion SITREP #1
Date	04/18/2013
Time	04/17/2013, 1900 Hours - 04/18/13, 0700 Hours
Operational Period	1900-0700
Report Number	#1

Regions Affected

DPS Regions Affected	Region 6
DDC's Active	Waco 11/23

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

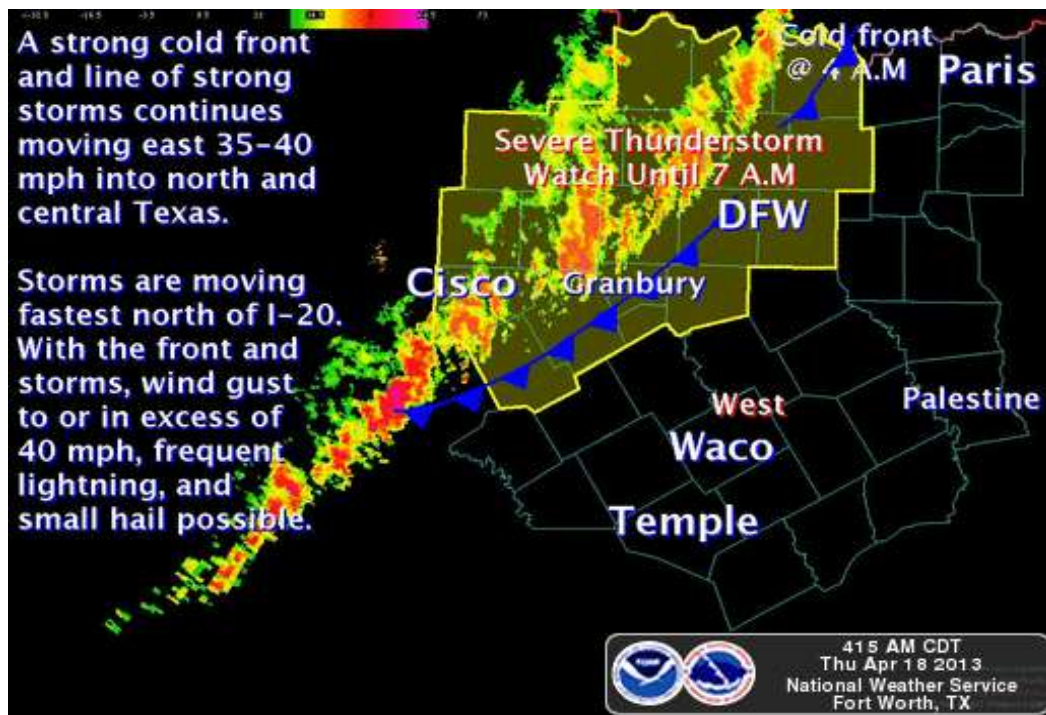
The State of Texas received a report of an explosion of a fertilizer plant in the City of West, McLennan County, located in North Central Texas. The explosion occurred at approximately 7:50 p.m., on Wednesday, April 17th, 2013. Initial reports indicated several hundred were injured and an unknown number of casualties. Several buildings within close proximity reported impacted include a middle school, nursing home, numerous residences, and several businesses. Evacuation of significant portion of the community was conducted due to health and safety concerns. The State Operations Center is activated at Level II (Escalated Response) effective 0700 hours today to support emergency response operations. The fire at the plant has been contained, however, several additional structures impacted by the plant explosion continue to smolder and contain hot spots.



The National Weather Service (NWS) Dallas/Fort Worth, forecast southeast winds of 20 to 25 mph will prevail ahead of a cold front. This front will move to near a Sherman to Denton to Brownwood line by 4 AM. This front will then move to near a Paris to Waco line by 7 AM. A line of showers and thunderstorms will occur along and for a few hours behind the front. Winds will shift to the northwest at 20 to 25 mph as the front passes.



A line of strong to severe storms continues moving east 30-40 mph, fastest north of I-20 and will push to a Paris Meridian Goldthwaite line by 5:30 a.m. CDT. These storms may produce gusty downburst winds, hail, and frequent lightning as they move into these areas. A strong cold front was also moving through the area too with rapidly falling temperatures into the 50s and gusty northwest winds 25 to 30 mph behind the front. A severe thunderstorm watch remains in effect until 7:00 a.m. CDT for the northwest half of the region, including the Dallas-Fort Metro. The watch does not cover central Texas, including Waco, Temple, and the Community of West at this time, but these areas could see the front and storms by 5:30-6:00 a.m. CDT.



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Search and Rescue
2. Protect life and property.
3. Support rapid & effective response.
4. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
5. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

REGION 6 (DDCs 11, 23)

County: McLennan

Disaster District (DDC) Waco: DDC is fully activated, identifying needed resources and providing coordination of state resources assigned to the DDC.

City of West EOC:

Area Command at the McLennan County EOC was activated at 1900 on 04/17/2013 with a mobile command on scene. Staging and Triage area was originally established at the City of West, High School but was relocated due to the proximity of the evacuation zone and potential additional safety concerns from the plant.

Texas Salvation Army: Texas Salvation Army has a TSA Incident Commander on site with the Waco canteen providing hydration and snacks. Four additional canteens are enroute to assist at the Community Center.

American Red Cross: Coordinating with local officials on sheltering support.

Areas Hospitals: Multiple area hospitals provided emergency medical care to injured citizens. Very preliminary reports indicate:

Emergency Room Visits: 200

Admissions: 51

ICU - 5

STATE AGENCY RESPONSE: Activated state resources included

State Agencies Actively	Type of specialized Equipment being utilized
Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Highway Patrol	Supporting DDC Waco activation, traffic control, supporting local law enforcement
TXDPS Criminal Investigations Division (CID)	Investigative support and personnel
The State Fire Marshall's office	Investigative Support and personnel
Texas Military Forces (TXMF)	6 th Civil Support Team
Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)	Personnel, traffic control, fuel support teams
Texas Task Force 1 (TTF1).	Urban Search & Rescue Type I Team, Search and Rescue K-9 Teams
Texas Task Force 2 (TTF2).	Type III Task Force
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	Hazmat Strike Team, Air Quality Monitoring, Plume Modeling
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)	2 Mortuary Trailers, Mobile Morgue Unit, 2 Medical Incident Support Team (MIST) personnel, State Medical Operations Center (SMOC) is activated. 2 Ambuses from Schertz and Cisco deployed to City of West.
Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)	Regional State and District Coordinator staff to support DDC Waco and impacted local jurisdictions
Texas A & M Forest Service (TA&MFS)	Incident Management Team Planning Section
STRAC	WebEOC support
American Red Cross (ARC).	Shelter Coordination and Support, Emergency Response Vehicle (ERVs)
Texas Salvation Army	Canteen support for impacted citizens and first responders
2-1-1 (HHSC)	Texas Information Referral Network
Texas Animal Health Commission	2 personnel to provide assistance with deceased domestic animals
Communications Coordination Group (CCG)	AT&T to provide cellular on wheels to provide additional cellular communications capability

Texas A&M Forest Service (TA&MFS): TFS has provided an Incident Management Team Planning Section.

Texas Task Force 1 & 2 (TTF1 and TTF2): TTF1 Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Type I Team to include Damage Assessment Personnel for collapse structure assessment deployed. Search and Rescue K-9 Team has also been deployed. TTF2 Type III Search and Rescue Task Force have also been deployed.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Has deployed two Mortuary Trailers, and a Morgue Unit. 2 Medical Incident Support Team (MIST) team members have also been deployed. The DSHS' State Medical Operations Center has also been activated.

Texas Military Forces (TXMF): The 6th Civil Support Team (CST) has been deployed to assist with chemical substance detection.

Communications Coordination Group (CCG): Activated to provide additional emergency communication resources and/or support as needed requested.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ are providing air monitoring and technical assistance. The strike team is on scene. No chemical or radiation was detected.

Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT): Texas Department of Transportation reported all traffic reduced to one lane, two ways traffic controls in place alternative routes are recommended.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): Providing personnel to support deceased domestic animal issues.

2-1-1 (Health and Human Services Commission): Providing public information via calls made to the Texas Information Referral Network 2-1-1.

Public Information Officer (PIO)/Joint Information Center (JIC):
Media requests continue to be received and are being forwarded to the Public Information Office.

FINAL COMMENTS: The SOC is at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) in support of the Fertilizer Plant Explosion. The Texas Division of Emergency Management is supporting emergency response operations and coordinating state resource support as required. The next situation report will be published on Thursday, April, 18, 2013.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.

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